

# The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 9641 號一十四百五千九第

日一初月七年四十緒光

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1888.

三拜禮

號八月八英港香

PRICE \$24 PER MONTH

## SHIPPING.

**ARRIVALS.**  
August 7, SATURDAY, British corvette, T. P. W. Neeson, Chompo 25th July, General.  
August 7, T. A. HONGKONG, Chinese ship, 635, N. Steinberg, Bangkok 25th July, General.  
August 7, T. HONGKONG, Chinese ship, 1533, C. M. S. N. Co.  
August 7, BAYERN, German steamer, 3877, R. Sander, Bremerhaven 27th June, Antwerp 1st July, Southampton 2nd, Genoa 9th, Port Said 16th, Suez 17th, Aden 21st, Colombo 28th, and Singapore 3rd August, Mails and General.—Messrs. S. & Co.  
August 7, DUBROV, German steamer, 321, C. F. Berthel, Saigon 3rd August, Mails and General.—Messrs. S. & Co.  
August 7, CANTON, British ship, 1110, Bremser, Whampoa 7th August, General.—JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.  
August 7, AMOY, British steamer, 814, R. Kohler, Shanghai 3rd August, General.—SIMPSON & Co.

## CLEARANCES.

**AT THE HARBOR MASTER'S OFFICE.**  
7th August.  
Affian, British ship, for Thursday Island.  
Marti, German ship, for Singapore.  
Vendia, British ship, for Amoy.  
Way King, Chinese ship, for Tamsui.  
Alving, German ship, for Hongkong.  
Wandering Jew, Am. ship, for New York.  
Glacior, British ship, for Shanghai.  
Glacior, German ship, for Amoy.  
Stator, British ship, for Amoy.  
Nanahan, British ship, for Swatow.  
Cheung Kook Kian, British ship, for Swatow.

## DEPARTURES.

August 7, DIAMANTE, British ship, for Manila.  
August 7, GLENGLARY, British ship, for Shanghai.  
August 7, GLENGLARY, German ship, for Yokohama.  
August 7, VENETIA, British ship, for Bombay.  
August 7, WAY KING, Chinese ship, for Tamsui.  
August 7, AYOON, British ship, for Australia.

## PASSENGERS.

**ARRIVED.**  
Per Dubrov, str., from Saigon.—4 Chinese.  
Per Bayern, str., from Bremerhaven.—20.  
Mrs. Henckendorff and children, Mr. Grant, and 28 Chinese.  
Per Amoy, str., from Shanghai.—Mr. and Mrs. Macini, Mr. and Mrs. Raddon, Mr. A. P. Taylor and 21 Chinese.

## REPORTS.

The German steamer Dubrov, from Saigon 3rd August, reports bad light S.W. winds and fine weather.  
The Siam ship T. HONGKONG, from Bangkok 25th July, reports bad fine weather and strong monsoon all the passage.

## THE GERMAN STEAMER AMOY, from Shanghai 3rd August, reports bad variable winds, high easterly sea from Plesang; thence strong S.W. monsoon to port.

The German steamer Amoy, from Shanghai 3rd August, reports bad variable winds, high easterly sea from Plesang; thence strong S.W. monsoon to port.

**J. MANUFACTURER OF FIRST CLASS FURNITURE AND UPHOLSTERY, COLLEGE CHAMBERS.**

DRAWING ROOM AND DINING ROOM SUITS, LIVING ROOMS AND EASY CHAIRS, SIDEBOARDS, WARDROBES, DRESSING TABLES AND MANICURE TOP WASHSTANDS, MANTEL AND CONSOLE GLASSES, SILK PLUSHES IN VARIOUS COLOURS, TAPESTRIES IN LATEST DESIGNS.

**GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICES.** Hongkong, 29th April, 1888.

**BOARD AND RESIDENCE.**

**MRS. STAINFIELD, 55, Queen's Road East, has PRIVATE BOARD AND RESIDENCE for Single Men or Married Couples, at reasonable rates.** Hongkong, 14th October, 1887.

**CUTLER, PALMER & Co.** ESTABLISHED IN 1815.

OF LONDON, BORDEAUX, CALCUTTA, BOMBAY, MADRAS, LAROCK, KURASHI, &c.

Are represented in China by Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.

• SIMPSON & Co.  
• LAYNE, CRAWFORD & Co. by  
• B. E. RITCHIE & Co. in Japan.

Subjoined are some of the items consigned by these well-known Shippers

**COGNAC.** The popular "4 Star" quality and best—No better shipped.

**COGNAC.** The well-known "2 Star" quality.

**SCOTCH WHISKY.**

The "CARBON" 11-year old.

The "Heart Shaped Bottle."

Are C. P. & Co.'s selected Whiskies of perfect quality, each is well matured and free from Fuel oil.

The "GREENHILL" in round bottles is popular and good.

**IRISH WHISKY.**

Only one quality consigned, the best.

**PORT—INVALIDS.**

Invalids in particular are recommended to select this Wine, it is really an INVIGORATING PORT.

**SHERBY.**

For Connoisseurs the following have their own distinctive merits—

## INTIMATIONS.

**STANDARD LIFE OFFICE.**  
FINANCIAL INFORMATION.  
ACCUMULATED FUNDS £ 8,936,422  
ANNUAL INCOME £ 200,000  
SUMS ASSURED £ 12,000,000  
CLAIMS PAID £ 12,000,000  
THE STANDARD has been established for 40 years, and its Funds are the largest of any Life Office in the United Kingdom with the exception of one office established ten years earlier.  
Full particulars as to the Company's different Schemes of Assurances may be obtained on application to the  
**BURNEO COMPANY, LIMITED,**  
Agents, Hongkong.  
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. have just received new consignments of FINEST SUMS ASSURED and are offering them at very moderate prices.  
PLANOS from BROADWOOD & SON, COLLARD & COLLARD, BRISTOL, CHAPPELL & Co., and HALL & CO., are received regularly.  
NEW MUSIC is received regularly.  
They have always on hand a full STOCK OF STORES from GROSS & BLACKWELL and other best quality goods received monthly and are always guaranteed fresh.  
NEW SEASON'S IRONY BUTTER, just arrived.  
L. C. & Co. would also draw attention to their STOCKS OF CROCKERY & GLASS WARE, IRONMONGERY, HOUSE FURNISHINGS, NON-PAREIL OIL, 150° KIST, KIST, CHEN UTENSILS, STOVES & RANGES, GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTING, HATS, BOOTS, TENNIS SHOES, UMBRELLAS, RAINCOATS, &c. &c.  
BEDSTEADS, COYS. PERAMBULATORS, CURTAINS, CARPETS, and TAPESTRIES.  
SHIP CHANDLERY STORES of every description.  
Special Agents for INTERNATIONAL ARTS, TOILET COMPOSITION.  
WINES & SPIRITS—  
CHAMPAGNE, AYALA & Co.  
SHERRIES, SAISON'S and other Brands.  
CLARETS in variety, Breakfast to After-dinner.  
PORTS of various Brands.  
BRANDY—J. & H. HENNESSY'S COGNAC.  
WHISKY—J. & H. HENNESSY'S COGNAC.  
JOHNSTON'S well known and justly celebrated Brand in square bottles, TEACHER'S HIGHLAND GRAM, DUNVILLE'S IRISH, SNEOWELL'S OLD TOM & GENEVA, RUM, LIQUEURS & BITTERS.  
ALS & STOUT, BULL DOG BRAND.  
TOBACCO & CIGARETTES.  
WHITEHEAD'S DRAUGHT STOUT & BASS DRAUGHT ALE.  
Hongkong, 21st July, 1888.

**KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED.**  
Greville Memoirs, 3 Vols., new and cheaper Ed. 10s. 6d. each.  
Beating—New Volume of The "Edinburgh Library."  
A large assortment of Photographs, from the most celebrated photographers—can be very often.

**THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, LIMITED.**  
AUTHORIZED CAPITAL £2,000,000  
PAID UP £500,000  
Registered Office, 40, THEBESDALE STREET, LONDON.

BRANCHES IN INDIA, CHINA, JAPAN AND THE COLONIES.

THE BANK receives money on Deposit, Buys and Sells Bills of Exchange, issues Letters of Credit, forwards Bills for Collection, and Transacts Banking and Agency Business generally on terms to be had on application.

Interest allowed on Deposits—  
Fixed for 12 months, 5 per Cent. per Annum.  
Fixed for 6 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.  
Fixed for 3 months, 3 per Cent. per Annum.  
On Current Deposit Accounts 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.

**APPROVED CLAIMS on the ORIENTAL BANK CORPORATION, in Liquidation, or the BALANCE of such Claims purchased on advantageous terms.**

Agency of the NATIONAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

**E. W. RUTTER,** Manager, Hongkong Branch.  
Hongkong, 19th March, 1887.

**THE HONGKONG HIGH LEVEL TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.**

THE Public are respectfully informed that the PEAK TRAMWAY was OPENED for PUBLIC TRAFFIC on WEDNESDAY, the 30th May.

THE CARS RUN as follows between St. John's Place and Victoria Peak, viz:—  
8 to 10 A.M. every quarter of an hour.  
12 to 2 P.M. every half hour.  
4 to 8 P.M. every quarter of an hour.  
8 to 10 P.M. every quarter of an hour.  
plus 12 to 1 P.M. every quarter of an hour, and from 4 to 8 P.M. every quarter of an hour.

Single Tickets may be obtained in the Cars. Gentlemen are requested NOT TO SMOKE in the middle compartment.

Tickets for 30 trips up and 30 trips down, at 45s. 6d. each, and Tickets for six trips up and six trips down, at 25s. 6d. each, and Reduced Tickets may be obtained at the Office of the

**MADEIRA FRICKEL & Co.,** General Managers.  
Victoria Exchange, 50 & 52 Queen's Road, Hongkong, 16th July, 1888.

**WANTED—A SITUATION as FOREMAN COMPOSITOR, Copying Clerk, or other Capacity, either in Hongkong or an Outpost of Good Reference.**

Address, Office of this Paper, Hongkong, 3rd August, 1888.

**WANTED.**

**SIAMSE USED POSTAGE STAMPS—EIGHT DOLLARS PER THOUSAND.**

**HARRY A. BADMAN & Co.,** Bangkok.  
21st July, 1888.

**LOS FILIPINOS,** IMPORTERS OF TOBACCO AND MANILA CIGARS, 25, POSTOFFICE STREET.

A Large and varied Stock of best Descriptions of MANILA & OTHER CIGARS, TOBACCO, CIGARETTES.

Wholesale and Retail at Moderate Prices. Inspection Respectfully Invited.

**SILVESTRE ARLEQUI & Co.,** Proprietors.  
Hongkong, 30th May, 1888.

**THE PREMIER CHAMPAGNE IN CHINA is THAT of MESSRS. VUVEZIEUX FILS ET CIE, of REIMS.**

SHIPPED BY CUTLER, PALMER & Co.

Small Bottles by J. & H. HENNESSY & Co.

N.B.—All Connoisseurs of Champagne should be satisfied with the quality, and supplied only at the moderate price.

**NOTICE OF FIRM.**

**W. H. ROSS** has authorized Mr. CARL ROSS to sign Bills of Lading.

**MELCHERS & Co.,** Agents.  
Hongkong, 6th August, 1888.

## BANKS.

**HONGKONG SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.**  
PAID-UP CAPITAL \$7,500,000  
RESERVE FUND \$500,000  
RESERVE FOR DEPRECIATION \$500,000  
COURT OF DIRECTORS—  
Hon. JOHN BELL-INGHAM—Chairman.  
W. H. ROSS, Esq.—Deputy Chairman.  
G. D. BAKER, Esq.  
J. S. MOORE, Esq.  
H. L. DICKINSON, Esq.  
R. L. LAYTON, Esq.  
Hon. A. F. MURPHY.  
Hon. CHIEF MAGISTRATE.  
Hon. HONORABLE JACOBSON, Esq., MANAGER.  
Shanghai—EWEEN CAMERON, Esq., LONDON BANKERS—LONDON & COUNTY BANK.  
HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.  
On Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 2 per Cent. per Annum on the daily balance.  
On Fixed Deposits—  
3 months 3 per Cent. per Annum.  
For 6 months 4 per Cent. per Annum.  
For 12 months 5 per Cent. per Annum.  
LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.  
CREDIT granted to the Improved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
DEPOSITS granted on London and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.  
T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.  
Hongkong, 25th April, 1888.

**RULES OF THE HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.**

1.—The business of the above Bank will be conducted by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on their premises in Hongkong. Business hours on week-days, 10 to 3; Saturdays, 10 to 1.

2.—Depositors must pay in at least \$250 at one time, and not less than \$250 in any one year.

3.—Depositors in the Savings Bank having \$100 or more at their credit, Depositors must transfer the same to the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on fixed deposit for 12 months at 5 per Cent. per annum interest.

4.—Interest at the rate of 3 per Cent. per annum will be allowed to Depositors on their daily balances.

5.—Each Depositor will be supplied gratis with a Pass-Book, which must be presented with each payment or withdrawal. Depositors must not make any entry in their Pass-Books, but should send them to be written up at least twice a year, about the beginning of January and beginning of July.

6.—Depositors must not bequeath the balance of their Pass-Book to any other person, and the production of his Pass-Book is necessary.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.

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## INTIMATIONS.

**BRITISH NORTH BORNEO GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION No. 31.**  
ON and after 1st Proximo the Premium of Lost or Two Dollars as a Reward By His Excellency's Command.  
Sundakan, 17th July, 1888.  
**WANTED.**  
**A THREE-ROOMED HOUSE** at the Road—FURNISHED or UNFURNISHED, with BATH ROOM—Apply to  
**VIZZAVONA.**  
Hongkong, 7th August, 1888.

**MEMORY—Lottet's System** is easy and interesting, and improves the natural memory. Praised by Mr. R. A. Proctor (Astronomer), many professional men, pupils who have PASSED EXAMINATIONS, who have rapidly learned Arabic and other difficult languages, &c. Lessons by post. Prospectus (English, French, or German) post free, from Prof. Lottet, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

**THE CHINA SUGAR REFINING COMPANY, LIMITED.**

IN accordance with the Provision of No. 121 of the Articles of Association, the General Agents have this Day declared an INTERIM DIVIDEND of 6 per Cent. on the Half-year ending 30th June, 1888, on the paid up Capital of the Company.

DIVIDEND WARRANTS payable at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, will be issued to Shareholders on the 24th instant.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 10th to the 24th instant, both days inclusive.

**JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,** General Agents.  
Hongkong, 4th August, 1888.

**HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.**

**NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.**

THE DIVIDEND at the Rate of 7 per Cent. or \$1.40 PER SHARE, declared at the Ordinary Half-Yearly Meeting of Shareholders held this day, will be PAYABLE at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION on and after Saturday, the 4th instant.

Shareholders are requested to apply at the Office of the Company for Warrants. By Order of the Board of Directors, T. ARNOLD, Secretary.

**HONGKONG & WHARF DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.**

**NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.**

THE ORDINARY HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Office of the Company No. 14, Praya Central, on MONDAY, the 27th inst., at THREE P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, and a Statement of Accounts to 30th June, 1888.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 15th to 27th August, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors, D. GILLIES, Secretary.

**THE CERTIFICATE No. 1374, dated 30th June, 1888, of the Shares No. 4518/4521, in this Company, standing in the name of Mr. GEORGE EDWIN SLAUGHTER, has been LOST, and if at the expiration of One month from the date hereof the above document be not forthcoming another Certificate will be issued by the Company and thereafter no other will be acknowledged.**

Dated 21st July, 1888.

**JAS. B. COUGHRINE,** Secretary.

**SPECIALITIES.**

THE MONKS OF THE ABBEY OF FEGAM, France, Distillers of the wide world known LIQUEUR BENEDICTINE, have given the Monks of the Abbey of Fegam, into the hands of Messrs. SIMPSON & Co., of Hongkong, to represent it there. The Finest most wholesome LIQUEUR is BENEDICTINE. It is a soothing, digestive and strengthening.

No one save ourselves has a right to import it into China.

Apply to SIMPSON & Co. For account of all Ordinances or otherwise.

**SQUARE BOTTLE SCOTCH WHISKY.** Excellent, Old, Soft, Pure, Unexpensive. Only in hands of SIMPSON & Co. Representing CUTLER, PALMER & Co.

**THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.**

THE Company is prepared to TRANSFER CARGO from its Godowns at Kowloon or West Point to any Steamer in the Harbour, and to BRING CARGO across from Kowloon to any place on the Praya at the usual rates.

By Order, ISAAC HUGHES, Secretary.

**MITSUBI BUBSAN KAISHA, LTD.,** Agents.

**THE MIKE COAL MINE.**

BUNKER COALS can be supplied to any steamer lying in the Harbour or coming to the Harbour, and may be applied to the Undersecretary.

Y. FUKUHARA, Acting Manager.  
Hongkong, 20th January, 1888.

**NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.**

TO CONSIGNEES OF OPTIONAL CARGO EX O.S. CO. S.S. "STENTOR" FROM LIVERPOOL.

SHIPPING Orders must be obtained from the Undersecretary not later than the 11th inst., for shipment per steamer "PATROCLOS." BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.  
Hongkong, 6th August, 1888.

**OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.**

CONSIGNEES per Company's Steamer "STENTOR."

are hereby notified that the Cargo is being delivered into Craft, and/or landed at the Godowns of the Undersecretary. Consignees are also requested to present all claims for damages and/or shortages not later than two weeks after the arrival of the steamer, otherwise they will not be recognized. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents.  
Hongkong, 6th August, 1888.

**GERMAN BANK "ADOLPH" CAPT. WESTERGAARD, FROM HAMBURG.**

CONSIGNEES of Cargo by the above steamer are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersecretary, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge will be at once landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense. SIMPSON & Co., Agents.  
Hongkong, 6th August, 1888.

## NOTICES TO CONSIGNEES.

**UNION LINE.**  
**NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.**  
FROM LONDON AND SINGAPORE.  
THE Steamship  
"DORSET."  
Captain Daniel, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersecretary for counter-signature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.  
Cargo impeding the discharge of the steamer will be at once landed and stored at Kowloon Godowns at Consignees' risk and expense and no Fire Insurance will be effected.  
All Claims against the steamer must be presented to the Undersecretary on or before the 14th instant, or they will not be recognized.  
RUSSELL & Co., Agents.  
Hongkong, 4th August, 1888.

**STAMSHIP "OXUS."**

**COMPAGNIE DES MESAGERIES MARITIMES.**

**NOTICE.**

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London Ex S. S. "MANCHE" and Antwerp Ex S. S. "ROMANUL" in connection with above Steamer, are hereby informed that their Goods, with the exception of Opium, Treasure, and Valuables, are being landed and stored at their risks at the Company's Godowns, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before 3 P.M. TO-DAY (WEDNESDAY), requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersecretary on the 10th inst. at 4 P.M.

Goods remaining unclaimed after THURSDAY, the 9th inst., at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges at One Cent per package per day.

All Claims must be sent in to me on or before the 11th inst. (SATURDAY), or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

**G. DE CHAMPEAUX,** Agent.  
Hongkong, 1st August, 1888.

**FROM HAMBURG, PENANG, AND SINGAPORE.**

**"HESPERIA."**

Capt. L. Madson, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading to the Undersecretary for counter-signature and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Any Cargo impeding the discharge will be landed into the Godowns of the Kowloon Pier and Godown Co. and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 7th inst. will be subject to rent.

All broken,



## INTIMATIONS.

1888. NOW READY. 1889.  
THE  
CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY  
FOR 1889.  
WITH WHICH IS SUPPLEMENTED  
THE CHINA DIRECTORY.  
(TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL ISSUE).  
COMPLETE, WITH APPENDIX, PLANS, &c., &c.  
Royal 8vo., pp. 1200.....\$5.00.  
SHALLER, EDITOR, N.Y. 670, pp. 816.....\$3.00.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY  
has been thoroughly revised and brought up  
to date, and is a much more useful work.

WATSON'S PRICKLY HEAT  
LOTION AND POWDER

ARE A SPECIFIC FOR  
PRICKLY HEAT,  
AND ALL SKIN ERUPTIONS

CAUSED BY THE HOT WEATHER.

## DIRECTIONS.

Apply with a Soft Sponge, and when nearly  
dry dust over with "The Dusting Powder."  
Irritation will entirely cease in a few moments,  
and be succeeded by a most agreeably cool and  
refreshing sense of comfort and ease.

A Light Dose of WATSON'S SALINE  
APERIENT in the morning is also recom-  
mended as a detergent.

A. S. WATSON & CO. LIMITED.  
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.  
Hongkong, 7th August, 1888.

## NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Communications on Editorial matters should be  
addressed to "The Editor," and those on business "The  
Manager," and not to individuals in general.  
Correspondents are requested to forward their names  
and addresses with communications addressed to the  
Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good  
faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one  
side of the paper only.  
Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not  
ordered for a fixed period will be continued until  
terminated.

Orders for extra copies of the Daily Press should  
be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.  
After that hour the supply is limited.

TELEPHONE No. 12.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, AUGUST 22nd, 1888.

In our yesterday's issue we referred to the  
position of England and Russia with refer-  
ence to Afghanistan, and gave a summary  
of the remarks of Mr. STREED, the editor of  
the *Pall Mall Gazette*, on that subject. Mr.  
STREED says:—"The first infidel who enters  
Afghanistan makes his opponent a present  
of the alliance of all the Afghan tribes, for  
the Afghans are ever the friends of the sec-  
ond comer. If England and Russia are to  
be enemies, then the first move in the game  
of each is to lure the other into the defiles  
of the Afghan mountains. The Russians  
understand that perfectly, and will not upon  
it. Unfortunately the English have no other  
idea as to Afghanistan than that of keeping  
the Russians out—the very thing that suits  
them best and, as least," Mr. STREED adds,  
"therefore, is that we should leave Af-  
ghanistan alone, and if the Russians want  
it, let them have it, though he says they do  
not want it. It is quite in accordance with  
Russian traditions, however, when they are  
about to annex a country, to say that they  
have no designs upon it. Every forward  
step taken by Russia in Central Asia has  
been preceded by an announcement that no  
such step was in contemplation. That also  
will make her influence preponderant in  
Afghanistan if ever opportunity offers  
admits of no doubt. To allow her to do so  
would be a total reversal of British policy  
in that direction and a severe blow to British  
prestige in India. In a recent number of  
the *Times of India* appeared a somewhat  
remarkable communication by a "native  
thinker," in which the writer, taking a  
different view from that held by the majority  
of the native Press, urges an increase in the  
of the native Press, argues that the present force  
is insufficient to defend India against Russia.  
At present we have about 180,000 men  
in our Indian army, one third  
of which is English. "Now, in case of war,"  
says the writer, "we will suppose that a  
 lakh and a quarter of men would be called  
out to the theatre of the war, the rest  
guarding the internal peace of the country.  
What chance has this small force against  
the invulnerable hordes of veterans that  
Russia, the owner of 20 or 30 lakhs of well-  
trained soldiers, could bring up to the scene  
of war?" England, he says, can feel, on  
the whole, absolutely secure with respect to  
its rule being ever seriously shaken from  
purely internal causes. But, he proceeds,  
"the important fact remains, that as  
against Russia or a combination of Russia  
and France (not to speak of that which is  
not quite impossible, namely, a powerful  
European coalition similar to that which  
confronted her in the last century in the  
time of the American war), her army is far  
too small to be really effective. The friend-  
ship of the country of the treacherous  
Afghans hangs on a mere thread—the life  
of ABDUL REHMAN, the present Amir.  
Today he lives, to-morrow a rebellion and a  
massacre, and ABDUL REHMAN lives no more.  
It is just possible a powerful successor might  
mount the giddy, who might be in friend-  
ship with Russia, and a way might be found  
out in which we must count the Afghans  
among our bitterest enemies. Russia would  
be sure to hit her at the head of the army."  
—Business, Casuals, Turkmen, and Af-  
ghans. Strategy lays down the rule that the  
nearer an army is to the base of operations,  
the stronger it is; but political considerations  
must prevail, and we must march into  
Afghanistan to meet the enemy." The *Times*  
of India, commenting on this communication,  
says:—"Our correspondent is undoubtedly  
right, when he says that political considera-  
tions will make it impossible for us to await  
Russia's attack on India soil, an unopposed  
Muscovite advance through Afghanistan  
would hopelessly ruin our prestige in India,  
spread wild panic over the land, and simply  
play into the hands of the disloyal mem-  
bers of the community." But in the esti-  
mate of Russia's force our contemporary  
differs widely from its contributor, arguing  
that even granting that Russia had a ter-  
rible army in Europe, not a very likely con-  
tingency, she would never dare to denude her  
Western frontiers of troops; she would al-

ways have to be prepared against a possible  
counter-attack from England on her rear;  
board; she would still have to hold in force  
the not very large Caucasus; and she would  
have an immense loss of communications to  
keep up; that she could concentrate in Af-  
ghanistan, far less supply with food, forage,  
and munitions of war, a tenth part of two  
lakhs of well-trained soldiers is all but im-  
possible; thus, should Russia ever knock at  
the gates of India, the forces that will stand  
face to face will not be so utterly dispro-  
portionate as some nervous people would have  
us imagine. The opinion thus expressed by  
the *Times of India* may stand good for a short  
time, but the fact must not be overlooked  
that Russia, by the trans-Caspian railway,  
has brought herself within reach of a  
striking distance of India than she was  
before that work was entered on, nor the  
fact that a branch line in the direction  
of Herat is included in the scheme, which  
will bring her still nearer. This ex-  
tension of railway communication is every  
day increasing the mobility of Russia's  
forces. It is objected that critics like Sir  
CHARLES DILKE treat "the vast numbers of  
armed Russians available somewhere or  
other among the great deserts and mountains  
and roadless morasses of Russia" as though  
they had all to be reckoned with at any  
point to which it should please the Czar to  
order them. But the morasses, and deserts,  
and mountains are, as we have seen, roadless,  
and troops can now be conveyed from Moscow  
to Central Asia in little over a week; this  
improvement in her communications renders  
Russia more formidable than any increase  
in her army under the previously existing  
conditions could have done, and both China  
and England have good cause to watch care-  
fully her movements in Asia and weigh well  
every indication of her policy that can be  
gathered. So far as England is concerned  
there is no immediate prospect of collision;  
the Afghan frontier has been duly marked  
out and determined; and, for some time to  
come it will no doubt be respected. But it  
would be easy for Russia to make a pretext  
for a quarrel at any time. As Mr. STREED  
says, the Russians, when they want to make  
trouble, will discover that some tribes just  
within the Afghan frontier have raised  
some tribes within Russian territory; they  
will ask us to punish the marauders; and  
while representations are being made to the  
Amir we shall hear by telegraph that the  
raids have been repeated, and that Colonel  
ALEXANDER has been ordered up to the scene  
of the foray "with instructions." This  
draft of the tactics likely to be adopted  
is from the pen of a pro-Russian writer, and  
it would not be unreasonable to expect it to  
be acted upon whenever Russia and Eng-  
land are sufficiently involved elsewhere. It is  
well, therefore, that the position should be  
looked at from the point of view adopted by  
the "native thinker" whose remarks we  
have quoted, as well as from the opti-  
mistic point of view adopted by his critic in the  
*Times of India*.

"MARITANA" AT THE THEATRE  
ROYAL.

Mr. Willard's Company repeated their per-  
formance of Wallace's Opera "Maritana" on  
Monday night, and the piece was as great a suc-  
cess on the previous occasion. There was a  
good house, though not quite so good as the  
night of its first production, but the audience  
was even more enthusiastic. So frequent and  
prolonged was the applause and so imperative  
the accents that it was after midnight when the  
curtain fell, amid loud acclamations, on the third  
act. The Company one and all worked hard, and  
in one or two instances there was perhaps even  
an improvement on the previous performance,  
successful as that was. This was not, per-  
haps, so much noticeable in individual efforts,  
but in the presentation of the piece as a whole.  
The hand of the stage manager had  
evidently been at work, and the grouping,  
staging, and effect of the scenes were con-  
siderably improved upon. The choruses were  
thoroughly exceptional, well rendered, Mr.  
Robinson's able direction being a powerful fac-  
tor in this result. The "Angulus" chorus being  
specially worthy of note. Miss Eva Leamington  
again gave a good representation of the part of  
Luciferella, her singing throughout being con-  
sistently good while her rendering of "Alas! those  
chimes" was again well received and enthusi-  
astically encored. Miss Flo Morrison gave a good  
account of the small part of the *Marchionessa*  
de Montefiore, and Miss Maud Hare's *Maritana*  
was, if anything, better than ever. She was  
in exceptionally good voice, and the great de-  
mands which were made upon it appeared  
not to affect it in the least, her singing in the  
last act being as clear and as full as at the com-  
mencement. Mr. Charles Fisher, who sang the  
part of Don Cesar, perhaps better than any other  
He displayed stiffness in his acting in the scene  
that in any other he assumes, while the music  
comes more suited to his voice than any other he  
attempts. His singing of "Let me like a soldier  
fall" was the signal for a most tremendous out-  
burst of applause, while his rendering of "The  
Memory of the past" was almost equally highly  
honoured. Mr. Immo had unfortunately not  
quite recovered his voice, and although the de-  
fect was not noticeable in the upper register his  
lower notes were uneven and rough. In spite  
of this, however, his singing of "Happy me-  
mories" gained him an encore, although it lacked  
the purity of tone which was so noticeable on  
the last occasion he assumed the role of Don Cesar.  
Mr. William Cripps as the *King of Spain* has  
improved both in singing and acting, and his  
rendering of "The mariner in his barge" was  
worthy of comparison with the best pieces of the  
evening. Mr. Stubb played carefully as the  
*Marquis*, and the minor characters were satisfac-  
torily played. The *Amoroso* (Thursday) night,  
the Company repeat "Arabian Nights" in which  
piece they scored a hit on the last occasion, with  
Mr. Willard as *Hummingbird*.

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